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ALPHEUS SPRING PACKARD (1839-1905)

Fellow in Class II, Section 3, 1868.

Alpheus Spring Packard was born in Brunswick, Maine, on February 19, 1839, and died at his home in Providence, R. I., on February 14, 1905.

In view of the present interest in the backgrounds of American scholars it may be recorded that his grandfather Hezekiah Packard, a revolutionary soldier, received from Harvard College the degrees of A.B., A.M. and D.D. and was an able preacher, teacher and writer. The Rev. Dr. Jesse Appleton, one of the early Presidents of Bowdoin was his maternal grandfather. His father was the Professor Alpheus Spring Packard who for sixty-five years taught various classical subjects at Bowdoin, the venerable scholar to whom Longfellow addressed his "Morituri Salutamus."

Packard graduated from Bowdoin in 1861; received the degrees of A.M., Bowdoin, 1862; M.D., Bowdoin, 1864; S.B., Harvard, 1864; Ph.D., Bowdoin, 1879; LL.D., Bowdoin, 1891.

After graduation he studied under Louis Agassiz at Cambridge for three years and subsequently taught with him at the Anderson School of Natural History at Penikese. The comprehensiveness of his interests which included geology, paleontology, systematic, structural and economic zoology, embryology and anthropology may be said perhaps to have been an academic heritage through Agassiz from the generation of Humbolt, Cuvier, Lamarck and St. Hilaire. His geological researches are recorded in books and papers on glacial phenomena of Labrador, Maine and the White Mountains. He published (1867) a "Revision of the Fossorial Hymenoptera of N. A." In the U. S. Geological Survey (1875-1877) under Hayden he served as a zoölogist. As a member of the Kentucky Geological Survey in 1874 he investigated with Putnam the great caves and their fauna of which he later wrote, "The Cave Fauna of N. A.," 1888. He studied also the Florida reefs and the fossil fauna of Charleston, S. C. In 1882 he published a text book "First Lessons in Geology." He published works so diversified as "The Development and Anatomy of *Limulus Polyphemus*," 1871, the "Monograph of North American Phyllopod Crustacea," 1883, the "Life History of Animals, including Man, or Outlines of Comparative Embryology," 1876, the "Zoology

for Students and General Readers," 1879, miscellaneous notes and papers on anthropology and ethnology and the notable book "Lamarch, the Founder of Evolution, his Life and Work," 1901. Entomology, however, was his chief interest. Professor Samuel Henshaw in "The Entomological Writings of Alpheus Spring Packard," enumerates three hundred and thirty-nine papers, books and notes, published up to 1887. He continued to produce papers upon this subject literally up to the last week of his life when he corrected the proof of his "Monograph of the Bombycine Moths of America" etc., Memoir of the National Academy of Sciences.

In his long and active career as Naturalist, Packard was associated with many American institutions and had a prominent part in founding some of them. In 1865 he became, on returning from service as assistant surgeon in the Army of the Potomac, librarian and acting custodian of the Boston Society of Natural History. With Hyatt, Morse and Putnam, his former associates in Agassiz's laboratory, he accepted a position in the Essex Institute in Salem, and subsequently when the Peabody Academy of Science absorbed the Essex Institute, he became Curator of Invertebrates and later, 1876, Director of the Academy. The American Naturalist was founded by this group of men in the Peabody Academy in 1868 and Packard remained its editor-in-chief for twenty years. He was also prominently connected with that novel undertaking of Agassiz's which has proved to have been of inestimable value to biology in America, the Anderson School at Penikese. He taught there both years and when the school was given up on account of Agassiz's death, he perpetuated the idea by establishing a summer school of natural history at Salem under the auspices of the Peabody Academy. This he directed until 1878 when he left Salem to accept the Professorship of Zoölogy and Geology at Brown University, the position which he held until his death. As is evident from the title this professorship permitted a latitude in subject matter that suited the range of his scientific interest.

As a teacher, judged from the view point of students who have since achieved maturity, Professor Packard represents a well recognized type. He was not a disciplinarian, a pedagogue or an "educator." With impregnable faith in youth, he tried unremittingly to awaken his students to the vision of nature which to him was totally absorbing.

"It was from the judgment of his confreres, from the men who had traversed the same intellectual territory and knew it, that he reaped his supreme honors. From these alone could the reward have come;

for below the judgment of his peers there was no other guide but conscience." "Precisely to such bodies of inexorable critics did the intrinsic strength of the work of Professor Packard ultimately appeal."² The American Academy of Arts and Sciences elected him to membership in 1868; the Société Royale des Sciences de Liège, 1875; the Society of Friends of Natural Science in Moscow, in 1891. In 1891 he was elected foreign member of the Linnean Society of London. He was elected also to membership in the entomological societies of London, Paris, St. Petersburg, Stockholm and Brussels; was made one of the honorary presidents of the International Zoölogical Congress in Paris, 1899; honorary president of the Zoölogical Section of the French Association for the Advancement of Sciences; vice-president (1899) of the corresponding Section of the American Association.

A. D. MEAD.

BENJAMIN OSGOOD PEIRCE (1854-1914)

Fellow in Class I, Section 2, 1884.

The following biographical notice of Professor Benjamin Osgood Peirce is taken for the most part from the Minute on his life and services which was placed on the records of the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the meeting of February 17, 1914. A much more extended biography will be published by the National Academy of Sciences.

Our colleague, Benjamin Osgood Peirce, who died in Cambridge on the fourteenth of January, 1914, was born in Beverly, Massachusetts, February 11, 1854, of a family belonging for several generations to the city of Salem. Of his ancestors, Richard Norman came to Gloucester in 1623, John Peirce to Watertown in 1637, John and Christopher Osgood to other parts of eastern Massachusetts before 1640. John Peirce had a son Robert, but after the Cromwellian era names taken from the Old Testament prevail in the family, and it is hard to refrain from using the robust terms of the Old Testament genealogies in recit-

2 Carl Barus, Memorial Address.